## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JIDDA 03350 091453Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 EB-07 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PRS-01 IGA-02 /053 W

-----092147Z 096204 /41

R 090811Z MAY 77 FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8262

CONFIDENTIAL JIDDA 3350

FOR ASST. SECRETARY ATHERTON FROM AMBASSADOR PORTER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (FAHD BIN ABD AL AZIZ), PFOR, SA, US SUBJECT: VISIT OF PRINCE FAHD TO THE UNITED STATES

- 1. I DO NOT WISH TO IMPLY THAT WE ARE IN A STATE OF UNCERTAINTY, BUT ONLY ONE OF ALERTNESS WITH RESPECT TO THE FACT OF THE VISIT.
- 2. WE KNOW THAT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT HAVE THE PROPOSED ANTI-BOYCOTT LEGISLATION UNDER CLOSE SCRUTINY AS WELL AS ITS PROGRESS TOWARD SIGNATURE BY THE PRESIDENT. IT WOULD BE WISE, I THINK, TO ASSUAGE THEIR UNEASINESS ABOUT THE CONTENTS OF THE LEGISLATION AND THE POSSIBILITY THAT SIGNATURE COULD OCCUR IN CLOSE CONJUNCTION WITH THE VISIT. ANY SUCH OCCURRENCE COULD TRIGGER REACTIONS OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE HERE.
- 3. IT DOES NOT SEEM USEFUL TO JAWBONE THE SAUDIS ABOUT BILLIONS OF DOLLARS FOR THE IMF WHILE THEY AWAIT FINAL ACTION ON FORM OF ANTI-BOYCOTT LEGISLATION. IN ANY CASE, ABA AL-KHAYL IS NOT THE POINT OF DECISION FOR THAT SUBJECT. (USINFO 051958Z MAY 77).
- 4. ANOTHER FACTOR CONTRIBUTING TO THE PRESENT RATHER SOMBER ATMOSPHERE

IS OUR CURRENT TENDENCY TO INCLUDE APPROVAL OF FMS CONSTRUCTION ITEMS FOR

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SAUDI ARABIA IN ANNOUNCEMENTS ALSO CARRYING THE RELEASE OF TANKS AND ARTILLERY TO ISRAEL. THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT DOES NOT SEE MUCH EVENHANDEDNESS IN THE NATURE OF SUCH APPORTIONMENTS.

5. AS FOR THE M.E. CONFERENCE, THE SAUDIS AND OTHER ARABS SEEM TO BE MOVING INTO AN INTENSE CONSULTATIVE STAGE AT THIS POINT, USUALL  $\Upsilon$ 

ON A BILATERAL BASIS, BUT PERHAPS PREPARATORY TO A SUMMIT WHICH WOULD PROBABLY PRODUCE A TIGHT AND TOUGH POSITION ON THE M.E. TO WHICH ALL OR MOST OF THE ARABS WOULD ADHERE AND WHICH WOULD MOST LIKELY AFFIRM THEIR SOLIDARITY ALONG KNOWN LINES. IF THE SAUDI VIEW PREVAILS, THIS SUMMIT WOULD PROBABLY TAKE PLACE AFTER FAHD HAS BEEN TO WASHINGTON, BUT IF SUCH A MEETING IS AGREED BEFORE HIS VISIT, THAT PROSPECT WOULD WEIGH HEAVILY ON SAUDI PARTICIPANTS.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: I WILL BE SEEING FAHD THIS WEEK, AND IT WOULD HAVE A CALMING EFFECT ON HIM (AND SOME MINISTERS) IF I COULD MENTION IN A GENERAL, BUT REASSURING WAY THE STATUS AND CONTENTS OF ANTI-BOYCOTT LEGISLATION.
PORTER

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: VISIT OF PRINCE FAHD TO THE UNITED STATES

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, SA, US, (FAHD, PRINCE)

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